

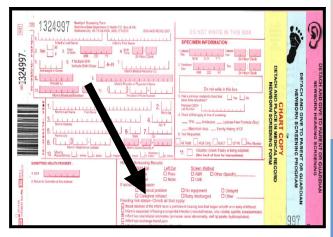
OSDH Newborn Hearing Screening Program

NewbornScreen@health.ok.gov or 1-800-766-2223 June/July 2015

Risk Factors for Delayed-Onset Hearing Loss

Each year in Oklahoma, approximately <u>2,500 infants</u> are identified as passing their initial hearing screening <u>but</u> having a risk factor that could put them at risk for possible delayed-onset hearing loss. National data reveals that <u>50% of all children with hearing loss</u> have risk factors. Even if a child passes a hearing screening, it does NOT mean that they will continue to have normal hearing. In fact, some children will lose their hearing in early

childhood. To assist families in monitoring their child's hearing status, Oklahoma law mandates that all risk factors be marked on the Newborn Screening bloodspot filter paper by all Oklahoma birthing hospitals and are then monitored through the Oklahoma Newborn Hearing Screening Program (NHSP). Hospital staff should mark any or all risk factors that apply to an infant. This requires looking at the patient's chart or asking the infant's parents questions.



Referrals for audiologic assessments for children with risk factors for delayed-onset hearing loss should be individualized as some risk factors require more frequent assessment. The Oklahoma NHSP recommends a follow-up at **6 months and 1 year of life**. Children with risk factors should be monitored for hearing loss in the medical home along with routine audiologic assessments for "surveillance of auditory skills and language milestones."

Did You Know?

By marking RISK FACTORS on the bloodspot filter paper, the parent and PCP will receive a Newborn Hearing follow-up letter to remind them about the need for a repeat screen at 6 months!

Tip of the Month

Between 4,000 to 6,000 children in the U.S. will PASS Newborn Hearing BUT lose their hearing by the age of 3.

A full list of Risk Indicators Associated with Permanent Congenital, Delayed-Onset Hearing Loss is available at www.jcih.org.